

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application, as amended and in light of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 14-19, 39, 40, and 64-67 are pending in this case. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 15, 16, 19, 40, 65, and 66 are amended by the present amendment to correct informalities and with support in the originally filed disclosure. Claims 4, 5, 20-26, 33-38, 41, and 42 and withdrawn Claims 8-13, 27-32, 43-63, and 68 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 4, 23, and 42 were objected to, and Claims 1-7, 14-26, 33-42, and 64-67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

At the outset, Applicant and Applicant's representative thank Examiner Vezeris for the courtesy of a telephone interview with Applicant's representative on January 25, 2011. The discussion during that interview is reflected in the amendments and remarks herein.

In view of the cancellation of Claims 4, 23, and 42, the objection to those claims is moot.

In view of the cancellation of Claims 4, 5, 20-26, 33-38, 41, and 42, the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is moot.

In light of the amendments to independent Claims 1 and 40, based on the clarifications discussed in the interview, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of pending Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 14-19, 39, 40, and 64-67 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, pending Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 14-19, 39, 40, and 64-67 are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, an early and favorable Action to that effect is respectfully requested.

If any clarifications would be helpful, Applicant requests that the Examiner call the undersigned representative at 202-861-1676 for expedited resolution.

Any additional fee believed necessary for the consideration of this response and to prevent abandonment of this application is hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 50-4581.

Respectfully submitted,
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